

Tempe Fire Department Policies and Procedures
Juvenile Firesetter Referral
305.04
Rev 5-1-96

PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for fire officers when a juvenile firesetter is identified at the fire scene.

PROCEDURE

ENTRY INTO PROGRAM

If a juvenile firesetter is identified at the fire scene, the fire officer in charge shall complete a Juvenile Firesetter Referral form. This form is to be forwarded to a Fire Prevention public education specialist. A Juvenile Firesetter Referral Follow-up will be returned to the fire officer informing them of the receipt of the referral form and letting them know what action is being taken with the juvenile and his/her family.

If evidence at the fire scene indicates a youth started the fire, the fire officer in charge must report this involvement on the fire incident report by marking the JFS box and including the age and sex of the firesetter. If the firesetter's name is known, enter it in the fire incident comment report along with their address, phone, and parent's name.

STATION WALK-INS

If a family comes to a fire station with their children who have been involved with firesetting, have the family contact a public education specialist, in Fire Prevention, during regular office hours; Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. A public education specialist will conduct all juvenile firesetting counseling.

TOURS OF THE FIRE STATION ARE INAPPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME, as this tends to be viewed by children as a reward for the negative behavior of setting fires.

WHEN TO CALL A FIRE INVESTIGATOR

The fire officer in charge shall call a fire investigator any time there is evidence of arson and there are witnesses with information that could identify the juvenile firesetter or suspects still on the scene.

For further information on when to call a fire investigator, please review the policy and procedure on Investigator Call-Out.